**Synthesizing**

Standard

* 5th grade—R5.A.1.3
* 6th grade—R6.A.1.3

Skill

* Synthesizing

Objective

* After listening to the story, She’s Wearing a Dead Bird On Her Head!, the students will reflect on their opinions about wearing furs and other animal products and how it has changed based on what they learned in the story.
* The students will use the information learned in the story to synthesize their thoughts.

Materials

* She’s Wearing a Dead Bird on Her Head! By Kathryn Lasky
* IWB
* Netbooks for each student

Procedures

1. Activate background knowledge and discuss initial thoughts through a Socrative survey question: How do you feel about people wearing real fur or other animal products just to be fashionable?
2. Explain “Synthesizing” by showing the handout with sentence starters and inform students that we will be practicing this strategy today. Tell students that, as older readers, they are going to be becoming more and more responsible for taking what they read and developing new ideas or strengthening old ones.
3. The teacher will being reading She’s Wearing a Dead Bird on Her Head!. After reaching a pre-determined page in the book, the teacher will stop and ask students to respond to a “during reading” Socrative survey question: Now that I have started listening to the book, I’m thinking…. Answers will be displayed anonymously and we will discuss how we have used the information from the book to synthesize our thoughts.
4. The teacher will finish reading the book and students will be asked to respond to one final Socrative survey question: Now that I’ve finished listening to the book, I’m thinking…. Answers will be displayed anonymously and we will discuss how we have used the information from the book to synthesize our thoughts.
5. The teacher will review what synthesizing means & why it is an important skill for readers.
6. Exit slip on Socrative: What is synthesizing and how will you use it to become a better reader?
7. Show students blog and encourage them to respond in their own time.

Assessment:

* Students will be assessed only through observation of their Socrative answers since this is an introduction the skill. The teacher will be given additional synthesizing activities to assess at a later date.

If time permits, show students the National Audubon Society website: [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)